

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 06145 080822Z

10

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 L-02 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /077 W

----- 062990

P R 080540Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8555

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 6145

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SI, IN

SUBJ: SIKKIM

REF: A) STATE 104732

B) LONDON 06783

C) STATE 106189

1. IN THE COURSE OF A DISCUSSION MAY 7 WITH N.B. MENON, MEA JOINT SECRETARY (NORTHERN DIV) ON OTHER SUBJECTS, POL COUNSELOR CASUALLY INQUIRED ABOUT APPARENT DIFFICULTY SOME INDIVIDUALS HAD REPORTED IN COMMUNICATING WITH THE CHOGYAL IN GANGKOK. MENON RESPONDED THE GOI EXPECTED THE RATIFICATION PROCESS OF THE AMENDMENT MAKING SIKKIM AN INDIAN STATE TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK. AFTER THAT, THE COMMUNICATION PROBLEM TO WHICH THE POL COUNSELOR HAD REFERRED WOULD "CHANGE RADICALLY." MENON OBSERVED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS UNDER EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MAINTAIN THE FULLEST RESPECT FOR THE CHOGYAL AND HIS FAMILY AND THAT THIS INSTRUCTION WAS GIVEN PUBLIC EXPRESSION BY THE RELEASE OF PORTIONS OF A LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO THE CHOGYAL (NEW DELHI 5516). THE GOI WOULD HAVE NO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 06145 080822Z

OBJECTION TO THE CHOGYAL CONTINUING TO REMAIN IN SIKKIM

IF HE WISHED, BUT IF HE WANTED TO LEAVE SIKKIM OR INDIA
HE WOULD ALSO BE PERMITTED TO DO SO.

2. COMMENT: WHILE MENON WAS EXTREMELY CIRCUMSPECT, OUR
IMPRESSION IS THAT THE GOI HAS WISHED TO MINIMIZE PUB-
LICITY ABOUT SIKKIM AND THE CHOGYAL'S POSITION, AND TO
CURTAIL INTERVIEWS AND STATEMENTS BY THE CHOGYAL TO AND
WITH FOREIGN FRIENDS AND NEWSMEN UNTIL THE INTERNAL
CONSTITUTION PROCESS SETTING A FORMAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
NEW SIKKIM STATE HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND THE POWERS OF A
NEW INDIAN GOVERNOR IN RESPECT TO ESTABLISHING LAW AND
ORDER HAVE BEEN UNEQUIVOCALLY ACCOMPLISHED. WHILE SAYING
NOTHING EXPLICIT TO CONFIRM THAT THE CHOGYAL IS UNDER SOME
FORM OF RESTRICTION OR ISOLATION FROM THE REST OF THE
WORLD, EVERYTHING THAT MENON SAID IMPLIED THAT THIS WAS
INDEED THE CASE BUT THAT WOULD SHORTLY BE LIFTED.

3. WE SEE NO PROBLEM, SHOULD THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVE
PRIVATE INQUIRIES ABOUT PROBLEMS OF COMMUNICATION WITH
THE CHOGYAL, IN CONVEYING THE MESSAGE THAT IT IS OUR
UNDERSTANDING AT THIS TIME THAT THE GOI DOES NOT EXPECT
THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION SO FAR AS COMMUNICATION WITH
THE CHOGYAL WILL CONTINUE MUCH LONGER. WE WOULD PREFER,
HOWEVER, THAT NO FURTHER ELABORATION OF MENON'S REMARKS
BE CONVEYED OUTSIDE THE USG.
SCHNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE06145
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750161-0637
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750570/aaaaclyj.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 104732
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIKKIM
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SK, IN, (CHOGYAL), (MENON, N B)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006